



SAINT HELENA
Catholic Church & School
In hac cruce vincis! In this cross, you will be victorious

Parish Office

Phone (612) 729-7344
Email church@sainthelena.us
Web www.sainthelena.us
Hours Mon-Thurs: 9am to 3pm
Fri: 9am to 12pm

Parochial Administrator

Rev. Michael Daly
frmichael@sainthelena.us

School

Phone (612) 729-9301
Web www.sainthelenaschool.us
Interim School Principal
Jane Hileman

Sacraments

Sunday Mass

Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30 and 10:00am

Daily Mass

Monday to Saturday 8:00am

Sacrament of Penance

Monday to Saturday
8:30 to 9:00am
Friday 6:00pm
Saturday 3:00 to 3:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday—Friday (in the
Bethlehem Adoration Chapel)
9:00 am to 9:00pm

Baptisms & Weddings

Please contact the parish office.

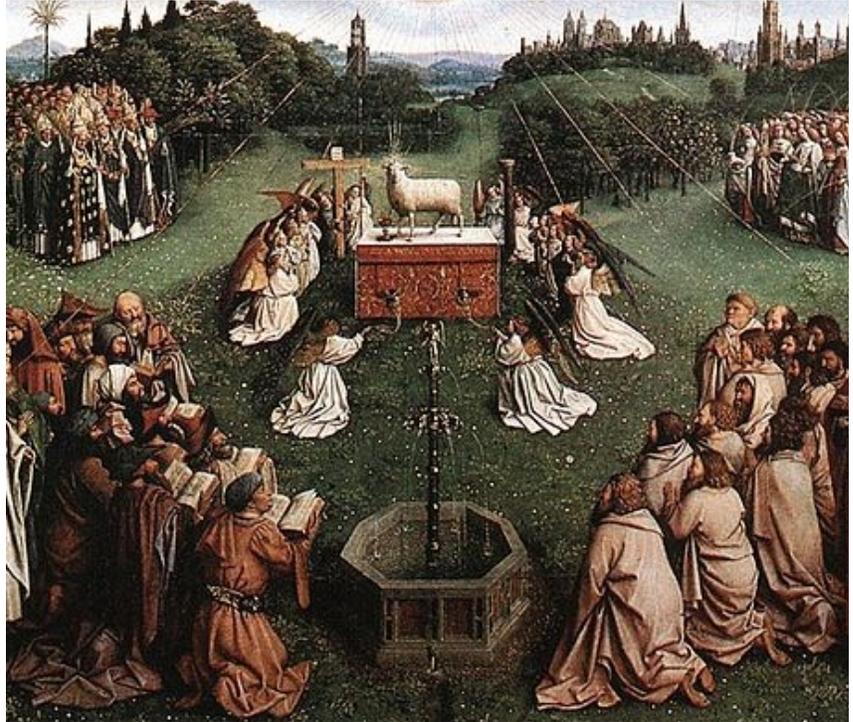
Parish Registration

To register as parishioners, please fill out a registration form, located at the entrances of the Church, and return to the Parish Office.

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2022

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." –Jn 10: 27-28a



The Ghent Altarpiece: Adoration of the Lamb by Jan van Eyck, 1425-1429

UPCOMING AT SAINT HELENA

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CONTINUES AFTER EASTER SUNDAY—We are continuing Eucharistic Adoration after Easter Sunday on weekdays, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. in the Bethlehem Adoration Chapel. All are welcome to come and adore our Lord in the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS— Come to doughnuts and coffee in Rowan Hall after the 8:30 and 10:00 AM Sunday Masses. Everyone is welcome.

SENIOR LUNCH—Senior Lunch will be held on May 18th, the third Wednesday of May. Join us at noon for good food followed by bingo in Rowan Hall. The cost is \$6 and no reservations are required.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay updated through Saint Helena's communication tool, Flocknote. With Flocknote you can receive parish updates, as well as updates from the groups you join (Quilters, St. Vincent de Paul Conference, etc).



Join Flocknote:

1. Visit www.flocknote.com/sainthelenampls, **OR** text STHSMPLS to 84576
2. Fill in your information and join groups that pertain to you.
3. You can log in anytime to change what groups you follow!

FATHER DALY BREAD

Happy Good Shepherd Sunday and Happy Mother's Day!

O Son of God, entrusted by the Heavenly Father to be the Good Shepherd of souls, born on earth to lead the lost to green pastures of spiritual nourishment, sent to mankind to gather us like sheep into the shelter of the True Church, we implore Your merciful aid and blessings upon our first communicants and newly confirmed children of God! It was a *beautiful* procession with the 1st communicants to honor Our Blessed Mother with a crown of roses on May 1, and a *glorious* outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the Cathedral upon our youth on Cinco de Mayo – *Come, Holy Spirit*, enkindle in us the fire of Your love!

I hope everyone enjoyed our joy-filled Spring Daze fundraiser for Saint Helena Catholic School! And I would like to invite you to warmly welcome our new principal, Karla Gergen, at all our Sunday Masses next weekend. Please join us for a reception following each Mass. Let us also pray for her safe travels from Honduras and for her family in this time of transition—may they fly with the angels and rise with the saints!

Last but not least, how fitting that we honor on Good Shepherd Sunday all mothers, natural and spiritual (including Our Blessed Mother and Holy Mother Church), who shepherd God's children through a maternal love and feminine genius. I can only experience "mothering" through the eyes of a son, but I've noticed that mothers are the most under-appreciated evangelical force in history and the home is where we prepare our families for Heaven, to find the Eternal in the everyday. We praise and thank our mothers, natural and/or spiritual, for their unconditional love, ability to listen, heartfelt compassion, gift of humor, deep hope, and faithful presence.

Behold your mother,
Fr. Michael

P.S. Remember to call/visit your mother today! And pray to Our Lady: *Hail Mary, full of grace...*

CHRISTIAN BURIAL—The parish community prays that *Bernerd Benoit, George Kissell, and Bernice Lunderborg* may rejoice in the gift of everlasting life in the full embrace of God our Father, and that family and friends and this community may trust more deeply in the promises of Jesus for eternal life.

FOOD SHELF—Reminder—The Church of St. Helena continues to collect items for the food shelf which is picked up every week. Non perishable food and personal items, (shampoo, toothpaste, paper products) may be dropped off by the elevator on the Church level.

THE WORD

Did you know that according to Canon Law (Can. 395), a bishop cannot be absent from the diocese to which he has been appointed for more than a month at a time; and he must be present for Christmas and Easter. In other words, the Church wants to make sure that her pastors are following the words our Lord in this Sunday's Gospel: "My sheep hear my voice, I know them and they follow me."

A good pastor loves his sheep but to love them, he must know them, and for any person who loves them, he needs to be present to them to learn more about them, and that takes time. You don't just say, "hello," and get to know a person. You must spend time with those individuals to know them and of course, you must continue to spend time with those persons if you want to grow in that knowledge of them. So, an absentee bishop (i.e. pastor of the sheep) is not what our Lord nor the Church wants.

That gift of shepherding, of being present and getting to know people, is so vital in bringing the Gospel to others. People need to be led to the truth, but to lead them (or to shepherd them) we need to spend time with them. And, oh how that's so much needed today. We live in such a lonely society.

It would seem that today in our highly sophisticated, electronic society that people are communicating more with one another by texting, but texting is just words. It's not full, complete communication. I'm not opposed to texting, but texting is just words—without body language. And, it's not the presence of an individual who tells the other person that he cares about that person.

We experience that in a poignant way at the time of a death of a relative. You don't have to say much to demonstrate that you care about the grieving person. Basically, all that is needed is to show up for the wake or funeral service. Your presence says it all. As Woody Allen said, "Ninety percent of success in life is just showing up".

So, on this Good Shepherd Sunday, we who are also shepherds in our own right (parents, grandparents, teachers, political leaders, supervisors of work, captains of sport's teams, heads of committees, etc.) are reminded of our responsibility to know and love the sheep of which are "in charge."

Just as on the natural level it's important that we know and love our sheep, so also on the supernatural level. We can lead others to the Lord, and the way we can do that is first of all by knowing and loving the sheep or they will not follow. So, in our fast-paced society we need to slow down, relax, and enjoy the people under our care—love the people we shepherd. (And, if you're a sheep, love your shepherd.) Allow the Lord to use us as His instruments who will love our sheep. We have the capacity to transform our families, workplaces, neighborhood, and country, and lead them to the Lord as we proclaim the Gospel through our leadership and shepherding. "My sheep hear my voice, I know them and they follow me."

John Sondag,
Director of Religious Education

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Secretaries

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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE?

If you know of a parishioner who is out of work, sick and unable to work, or struggling because of financial difficulties, the parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference may be able to help that person. If you would like more information, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431. (Your name and the referral will be kept confidential.)

BE PART OF THE PARISH ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE which provides outreach to individuals or families who are in need of assistance. Conference members visit homes of those in need to assess how the conference can be of service, and in a very personalized and confidential way give them help. The next conference meeting is Thursday, May 12, at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Office.

WOMEN OF ST. HELENA—PRAYER GROUP

On Monday mornings a group of women meet at Church after the 8:00 Mass for an hour of quiet time and prayer. If you would like to join us, please call Barb Kaluza at 612-721-2504 or Shirley Balster at 612-722-8847.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? Please let that individual know that we have a program for interested persons which prepares individuals to become a Catholic. Call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

PRAYER CORNER

Father, by the passion of your Son you proclaimed the final judgement of the world; when you raised Christ upon the cross you deposed the prince of darkness. Strike down the pride that rules our hearts and raise us to the glory of the Resurrection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dr. Deborah Savage: Speaker for “An Evening Affirming Human Life and the Family”

After a two-year pause because of the Covid pandemic, the Church of St. Helena will have the annual “Evening Affirming Human Life and the Family” on Tuesday, June 14, with Dr. Deborah Savage of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. The evening will consist of a social, dinner, musical entertainment, and an address by Dr. Savage. Mark your calendars for this gala event.

VACATION RELIGION PROGRAM FOR GRADE SCHOOL CHILDREN

(Starting Kindergarten through Eighth Grade)

Monday, July 11 through Friday, July 15, 2022

8:30 to 11:30 A.M. in Rowan Hall

Taught by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters

Mrs. Ruth Caron and Mrs. Mary DeLuney

Program includes: prayer, instructional time, group activities and projects,

Scripture, stories of saints, songs, drama, prizes, and more.

Charge: \$25 per child or \$60 per family
(children entering 6th through 8th grade are helpers – no charge)

No child will be deprived of the program because of finances.

For registration or more information:

call John Sondag (612-275-0431)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: AUTUMN DAZE FESTIVAL SEPT 16, 17, & 18, 2022

TODAY'S READINGS



Worship # 1087
1st Reading: Acts 13: 14, 43-52
2nd Reading: Rev. 7: 9, 14b-17
Gospel: John 10: 27-30

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 9: Acts 11:1-18, Jn 10:1-10

May 10: Acts 11:19-26, Jn 10:22-30

May 11: Acts 12:24—13:5a, Jn 12:44-50

May 12: Acts 13:13-25, Jn 13:16-20

May 13: Acts 13:26-33, Jn 14:1-6

May 14: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, Jn 15:9-17

May 15: Acts 14:21-27, Rv 21:1-5a, Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 8

- 8:30am Mass, Church [*Coffee & Donuts After in Rowan Hall*]
 10:00 am Mass, Church [*Coffee & Donuts After in Rowan Hall*]

Monday, May 9

- 8:00am Mass, Church
 8:30 - 9am Confessions, Church
 8:30am Women's Prayer Group, Church
 9:00am Quilting, Parish Offices

Tuesday, May 10

- 8:00am Mass, Church
 8:30 - 9am Confessions, Church

Wednesday, May 11

- 8:00am Mass, Church
 8:30 - 9am Confessions, Church
 6:15pm Quilting, Parish Offices

Thursday, May 12

- 8:00am Mass, Church
 8:30 - 9am Confessions, Church
 6:30 pm St. Vincent DePaul Mtg., Parish Office

Friday, May 13

- 8:00am Mass, Church
 8:30 - 9am Confessions, Church

Saturday, May 14

- 8:00am Mass, Church
 8:30 - 9am Confessions, Church
 3:00pm Confessions, Church
 4:00pm Mass, Church

Sunday, May 15

- 8:30am Mass, Church [*Coffee & Donuts After in Rowan Hall*]
 10:00am Mass, Church [*Coffee & Donuts After in Rowan Hall*]

*Eucharistic Adoration in the Bethlehem Chapel
 Monday thru Friday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm*

SACRISTY LINENS: Ann Holleschau

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	8:00	† Melvin Kriz
Tuesday	8:00	† Mary Eskeldson
Wednesday	8:00	† Roger Henning
Wednesday	9:30	† Alan Patrick Carr
Thursday	8:00	† Rev. Francis A. Pouliot
Friday	8:00	† Arthur & † Bernice Casey
Saturday	8:00	† Lois Weidner
Saturday	4:00	St. Helena Parish
Sunday	8:30	† Andrew & † Donna Pukay
Sunday	10:00	† Joanne & † Chuck Stemper

SAINT HELENA SCHOOL NEWS

Second Graders Make Their First Communion

On Sunday May 1, eight first communicants from Saint Helena Catholic School processed down the aisle with the other eight first communicants from our parish CCD class at the beginning of Mass with their little hands folded in prayer.

Father Michael's homily was on fire with the Holy Spirit as the children listened attentively. One by one, the children received Holy Communion by intinction, the practice of dipping the consecrated host into the consecrated wine, on their tongues while kneeling. They were so happy to finally receive the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ.

At the end of Mass, the children processed around the church with Father and the altar boys to crown the statue of Mary to honor her as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Father then blessed scapulars for the children to wear to remind them of Mary's love and protection. It was a beautiful celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

Ruth Caron, Second Grade Teacher

Principal Update

I had to do some mental math to determine how many First Communion Masses I have attended at Saint Helena. I know that there were 21 as principal, 3 for my own children, 2 during retirement, and several random ones that I attended as a parishioner. After 28 plus First Communion celebrations, I know that these are some of the best memories that I have of our faith.

Perhaps it is because I know how hard these teachers work to prepare our young children to receive our Lord. Since the office is across the hall from the second grade classroom, I have had a ringside seat watching five different teachers form our second graders. Maybe it is because of the care and beauty that goes into their special sacramental clothing, or perhaps it is because the church is filled with visitors that take such pride in these young people. Certainly the joy of this sacrament in finally receiving Jesus makes this a day that most children will never forget.

So many memories of so many students flooded my heart during Mass. I am blessed to have been touched by these many Saint Helena First Communion Masses.

Jane Hileman
 Principal